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OLC 71-2051

1 December 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: White House Meeting of the Legislative Interdepartmental
Group -- 24 November 1971

1. On 24 November 1971, I attended a meeting of the Legislative Interdepartmental Group at 1640 hours in the Situation Room in the White House. I was accompanied by [REDACTED] of FE Division. The meeting was chaired by Mr. John Lehman, of Dr. Kissinger's staff, and participants included:

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National Security Council

Colonel T. C. Pinckney
Mr. Robert Hormats
Mr. James T. Hackett

State Department

Mr. David Abshire
Mr. Thomas Pickering
Mr. Alex Schnee
Mr. Anthony Faunce

Department of Defense

Lt. General George Seignious
Mr. Rady Johnson

CIEP

Mr. Lawrence Brady

AID

Mr. Matt Harvey

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OMB

Mr. Robert Mantel

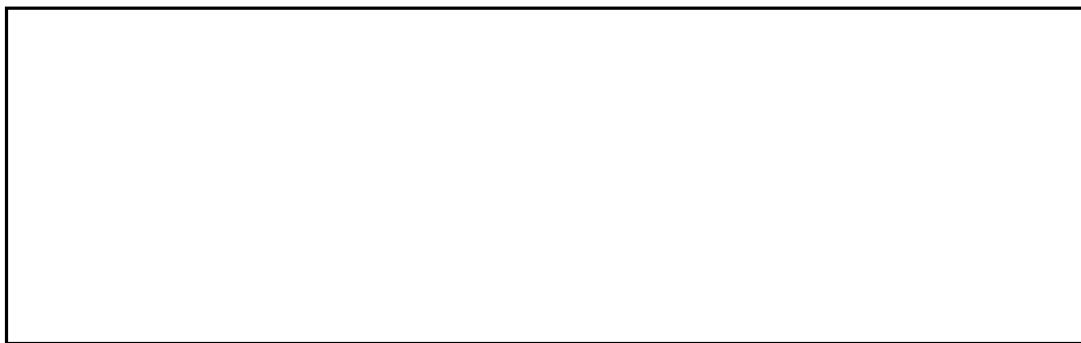
White House

Mr. Richard Cook

2. At the outset it was noted that State was pressing Chairman Thomas Morgan, House Foreign Affairs Committee, for an early conference between the House and the Senate on legislation regarding Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. Mr. Lehman said he would try to get the President to sign a letter in support of a conference solution ensuring the continuation of the Radios.

3. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of a number of sections of the Military Assistance bill as reported out by the Foreign Relations Committee. It was agreed that the changes in the bill to be recommended by the Administration would be assigned priorities A, B and C--Priority A including those amendments essential to the Administration's program; Priority B, those amendments considered highly important; and Priority C, amendments which were of lesser urgency.

4. So far as matters of interest to the Agency were concerned, it was agreed that:



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b. Section 655 (imposing a \$341 million ceiling on all the systems to Cambodia including ARVN ground operations) was accorded Priority A. State and DOD undertook to work together preparing talking papers to brief Chairman Morgan in support of their request that:

(1) The ceiling not apply to ground operations by third country troops, and

(2) That the conference language limit application of the ceiling to AID-related matters.

c. Amendment to Section 656 (establishing a ceiling of [REDACTED] was accorded Priority B. It was agreed that State would try [REDACTED]

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5. At the close of the meeting I commented that the Director wanted the group to be aware of the position he had taken with the Senate Armed Services Committee when queried regarding the affects of changes in the intelligence community. I said the Director had made clear to the Committee that:

a. There was nothing in the new arrangements requiring or authorizing him to abrogate his responsibilities as head of the Central Intelligence Agency and that he had every intention of continuing to discharge these responsibilities as in the past.

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b. The only specific changes were the instruction that he devote increased attention to coordinating the community, and the requirement that he submit to OMB a program budget for the community.

c. The new National Security Council Intelligence Committee will fill a gap by providing the community with guidance as to the intelligence coverage needed by the policymakers but will have no affect on the substance of intelligence estimates or analyses.

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✓ JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel ✓

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